

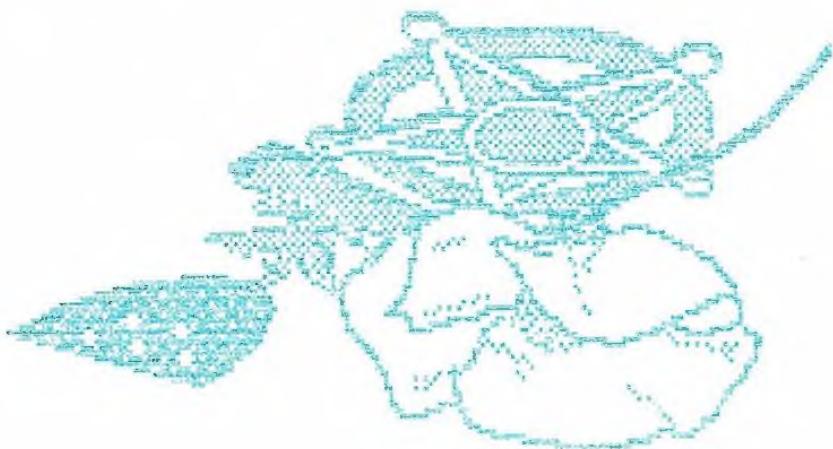
OTTAWA HOME computing

The Newsletter of the
Ottawa Home
Computing Club

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Serving the Amiga Apple, Commodore, Macintosh and MS-Dos Computers



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Membership Report-Nov. 91

by Lucien St. Denis

If your name appears on this list, please check with me, your membership chairman. A 1 month grace period will be allowed, then your name will automatically be removed from the membership list. Membership standing is 213, please renew now. Please bring a friend, we need new members.

DATE..... NAME	DATE..... NAME
91/10/01.. Evelyn M. Scullion	91/10/02.. George W. Atallah
91/10/03.. Jean-Louis Dion	91/10/05.. Ian McLeod
91/10/07.. Jaan Kolk	91/10/08.. Frederic Torrington
91/11/02.. Keith A. Seifert	91/11/03.. Real Chaine
91/11/04.. Earle Robertson	91/11/05.. Jack Trottier
91/11/06.. Ronald P. Webb	91/11/07.. Sanjeet Mehat
91/11/08.. Mervin F. Lemke	91/11/10.. Allan Kovacs
91/11/11.. M. H. Watson	91/11/12.. Gordon K. Walford
91/11/13.. G. E. Lamontagne	91/11/15.. Don Fox
91/12/01.. Harry Wood	91/12/02.. Bill Paton
91/12/03.. Zem Colynuck	91/12/04.. Craig Ellis
91/12/05.. Christopher Morry	91/12/07.. Alvin S. Anderson
91/12/08.. Arthur Connor	91/12/09.. R.A. Patterson
91/12/10.. Jason Walton	91/12/11.. D. Bellmore
91/12/12.. F.H.(Ted) Turner	91/12/15.. Wade Albert
91/12/16.. Rob Andrews	91/12/17.. Jim Armstrong
91/12/18.. Kevin Bourgault	91/12/19.. R.D. Cessford
91/12/20.. Baljinder Chouhan	91/12/21.. B. Kipling Cooper
91/12/22.. Mark Culham	91/12/23.. George Edwards
91/12/24.. Thomas Erskine	91/12/25.. Alexis Glass
91/12/26.. Robert S. Grant	91/12/27.. Jon Harju
91/12/28.. Gary Humenuk	91/12/29.. Scott W. Hurd
91/12/30.. Ross Jenkins	91/12/31.. Charles Lapierre
91/12/32.. Robert MacDougall	91/12/34.. Christopher Morgan
91/12/35.. Rick Morrow	91/12/36.. Jeremy Neuringer
91/12/37.. Eric Plante	91/12/37.. Bud Reid

91/12/39..Don Routledge	91/12/40..Jerome D. Scott
91/12/41..Ed Steenhorst	91/12/42..James Sutton
91/12/43..Raymond W. Thomas	

Welcome New Members (N=New R=renewal)

10/10...Nora K. Nishikawa(N)	10/11... Bill Walker(N)
10/12...Joe Martyniuk(N)	11/01... Robert Jolicoeur(N)
11/02...George W. Brown(N)	11/03... Robert C. Wilson(N)
11/04...Gary Helman(R)	11/05... Chris Sharp(N)
11/06...Margaret Spence(R)	11/07... Neville Newman(N)
11/08...Terry Hicks(R)	11/09.. John Cocklin(R)
11/10...J. Adrien Gallant(N)	11/11.. Larry Horbik(N)
12/01...Ed Fuchs(R)	12/02... Douglas W. Kirk(R)

HE FORGOT TO SAVE FOUR HOURS OF
PROGRAMMING BEFORE SWITCHING OFF
HIS COMPUTER!





Minutes of Exec Meeting 15 Oct. 91

Pierre Castricum called meeting to order at 7:30.

REPORTS:

President: Pierre talked about last month's Ontario Computer Fair show, and the amount of people that stopped at our booth and inquired about the OHCC, and picked up applications. He told the Executive that next month will be a SIG night. Pierre said he finally got the list of the AMIGII members to put on our mailing list.

Secretary: Gerry Bouchard talked about the Shareware disks he has for sale at the upcoming meeting.

Program Co-ordinator: Niels Hansen-Trip is stepping down from his position due to his workload and travelling time. On behalf of the Executive and the members, thanks for all you've done and good luck in your work.

Membership: Lucien St Denis told us that he might be stepping down from his position before the year ends, he will let us know in advance. He told us that the membership now stands at 213 members and 20 not yet renewed.

Treasurer: Lloyd Wright talked about the status of the club account.

C128 Librarian: Bob Thomas said he will have an article for next month newsletter for the C128 group.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 by Pierre.

World of Commodore

by Pierre Castricum

The World of Commodore Amiga will be held once again at the International Centre, Airport Road, in Toronto. Show dates and times are as follows:

Friday December 6th - 10:00 a.m. 9:00 p.m.,
Saturday December 7th - 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and
Sunday December 8th - 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The official WOC hotel this year will be the Toronto Airport Hilton located at 5875 Airport Road. Rates at \$99.00 for either single or double and \$119.00 for mini-suites. For reservations please call (416) 677-9900. In order to obtain these rates, don't forget to mention that you will be attending the WOC, otherwise standard room rates will be applicable. (Please note these prices do not include applicable taxes).

If you should have any questions regarding the show, please let me know.

CLUB NOTES

By Ray Monette

MS-DOS Software Library

Update: Nov. 91

This month's
Shareware disks
will be sold
by Gerry Bouchard

President's Message

by Pierre Castricum

The month of November is upon us already. It's funny to think that only yesterday we were complaining about the heat. Now, instead of turning the air conditioner onto high we're looking at the furnace to keep us warm during the cold days ahead.

The club has been fortunate in having Niels Hansen-Trip as our Program Co-ordinator. Due to work commitments, Niels has resigned his position effective immediately. We are therefore looking for his replacement.

The main responsibility of the position is to arrange for speakers and/or demonstrations for club meetings. Only six meetings have been devoted to having speakers/demonstrations with the others being SIG (Special Interest Group) nights. If you are interested in taking on this position or have any questions regarding the position, please feel free in contacting either myself or any other member of the executive.

I mentioned to you at the October meeting that the executive was analysing the complete question of disk-of-the-month production. A number of discussions at our monthly meetings have taken place and a new policy will be put in place beginning this month. I will announce the details at tonight's meeting.

See you there!

MS-DOS Software Library

by Ray Monette — DOS Librarian

Jan. 91

Graphic Workshop v4.8 (NEW version)
The Noid
Windows 3.0 - Utility # 3
Windows 3.0 - 400 Icons +
Desktop Paint v1.6
Scan72 (NEW version)
Blast Game v1.0

Feb. 91

Graphic Workshop v5.1 (NEW version)
Commo v4.5
Commander Keen v1.3
Schematic Master v2.0
Simply Labels v2.2
Tax Disk "90"

Mar. 91

Gamer's Edge
Scan75 (NEW version)
CDMan
Windows 3.0 - Utility #4
Disk of the Month #10 (Mar/Apr)

Apr. 91

E.A.R.L.S. v2.1
Finger Paint v2.0
Get Saddam (The game)
Home Bartender Guide
Mah Johgg VGA v3.0
Telix v3.15 (NEW version)

Jun. 91

Address Book v2.02
Amortize v 6.0 (NEW version)
Ballistix-PC
Address Master v2.1
Disk of the Month #12 (Jul)

Aug. 91

Explod v2.03
PC-Studio v1.0
Scan80 (NEW version)
Grabber v3.8
Moraff's Stones v1.0
Rubicon v2.2C
Lemmings
TWrite v2.1
Elffree v9.0
Disk of the Month #13 (Aug)
Windows 3.0 - Utility #8
Windows 3.0 - Utility #9

Oct. 91

Darkages v1.0
Scan82 (NEW version)
ALT v2.12

Above is a list of some of the NEW disks that were added to the DOS library this year.

In the future we plan to add twice as much, so we would like to find out what type of programs you would like to have in the library.

Probably next month I will publish a list of some programs that might be available, and you the members will let us know what you want.

What we are trying to do is to get software that you will use. Whatever you ask for we will try to get.

If you want updates to our existing software we will update as soon as they is a NEW version.

If you know of a program that you want, or know of, let us know. This goes not only for the MS-DOS but for all the SIG's we have.

Let your Librarian know.

Humour Page

Downloaded from a local BBS

XXX Insurance Company

Dear Sir:

I am writing in response to your request for additional information in Block # 3 of the accident reporting form. I put "Poor Planning" as the cause of my accident. You said in your letter that I should explain more fully and I trust that the following details will be sufficient.

I am a bricklayer by trade. On the day of the accident, I was working alone on the roof of a new six story building. When I completed my work, I discovered that I had about 500 pounds of bricks left over. Rather than carry the bricks down by hand, I decided to lower them in a barrel by using a pulley which, fortunately, was attached to the other side of the building at the sixth floor.

Securing the rope at ground level, I went up to the roof, swung the barrel out and loaded the bricks into it. Then I went to the ground and untied the rope holding it tightly to insure a slow descent of the 500 pounds of bricks. You will note in Block # 11 of the accident reporting form that my weight is 135 pounds. Due to my surprise at being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go the rope. Needless to say, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate up the side of the building.

In the vicinity of the third floor, I met the barrel which was now proceeding in a downward direction at an equally impressive rate of speed. This explains the fractured skull, minor abrasions and broken collarbone, as listed in Section III of the accident reporting form. Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley, which I mentioned in Paragraph # 2 of this correspondence.

Fortunately, by this time, I had regained my presence of mind and was able to hold tightly to the rope despite the excruciating pain I was now beginning to experience. At approximately the same time however, the barrel of bricks hit the ground... and the bottom fell out of the barrel. Now devoid of the weight of bricks, the barrel now weight approximately 50 pounds.

I refer you again to my weight in Block # 11. As you might imagine, I began a rapid descent down the side of the building. In the vicinity of the third floor, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the fractured ankles, broken tooth, and the severe lacerations of my legs and lower body. Here my luck began to change slightly. The encounter with the barrel seemed to slow it up enough to lessen my injuries when I fell into the pile of bricks and fortunately only three vertebrae were cracked.

I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the pile of bricks in pain, unable to move and watching the empty barrel six stories above me, I again lost my composure and presence of mind and let go of the rope.

Sincerely

... Andy (Hope you enjoyed it!)

A Guide For New Members (and old ones)

A Guide to Meetings

General meetings can be long and boring, and you can leave early, or they can be a stimulating source of new friends and ideas — it's up to you.

People usually start rolling in about 7:10, and the time from 7:00 to 7:30 is open for socializing, membership registration and the disk-of-the-month sales. It can be a pretty slow time if you don't know anyone, so get to know somebody. I mean it! I'm the shy, withdrawn type and hated that first half hour, so I forced myself to go and talk to people who shared my interests. Talk to the librarians. Talk to an executive member. Talk to a stranger sitting beside you. They won't bite.

Don't be afraid that you'll embarrass yourself because you know nothing about computers - everyone was there once themselves, and most members take a special interest in trying to help out beginners. One of the most important function of the club is bringing together people interested in home computing. If you're going to sit there and ignore all these like-minded souls, you'll only be cheating yourself.

The Business meeting starts at about 7:30 and is usually pretty interesting. The President, Pierre Castricum, keeps members up-to-date on general news and club happenings, and members of the executive sometimes talk about issues in their domain.

The Main Presentation starts at 7:45, sometimes this involves a number of club members doing a demonstration, or someone from outside the club with the knowledge in a certain area of computing. These presentation range from exciting to real snoozer, though that is purely subjective, and any one speaker has several interested listeners. If you are not interested in the topic, you are free to leave early and go to the classroom of your chosen SIG.

At 8:30 the small groups (*Special Interest Groups*) machine specified groups, seminars, etc., take place in the classrooms. Regular groups are listed in the Newsletter (room allocation are listed on page 2 of every issue). In these SIG's you might catch a demo of a latest software product such as Corel Draw, DOS 5.1 or even a new game like Space Quest IV by a member of that particular SIG or an invited guest.

A couple of years ago the club attempted to organize SIG's on various topics (Telecommunications, Databases, Machine Language, etc...). The only one of those groups that survived was that it has an appointed leader/teacher. For the other groups, the club has appointed leaders who would get the group going, and it was hoped that a leader would emerge, or that the group would continue by some spontaneous egalitarian democratic process. Neither occurred and the group faded away.

If any one member, or group of members, would like to use a classroom on meeting night, they are welcome to do so. If they would like other club members interested in the same topic to join in, they should indicate their intention to the Club President, and he will announce it at the meeting.

Other than these spontaneous meetings, the regular meetings are: Beginners (mainly C64), Apple/Mac, Amiga, C128 & CP/M, C64/Disk of the month and of course the MS-DOS. These groups have leaders, often have machines available and demonstrations of software. These groups are also a good place to meet people who have the same computer as you do, and a good place to get questions answered and problem solved.

A Guide for Volunteers

In the meetings, get to know other people. Outside of the meeting night, you'll get the most out of the OHCC by volunteering to do some task, or take on some duty. Almost all tasks and duties force you to use your computer (and perhaps introduce you to new software), and help you to meet people.

The easiest way for me to organize this is to go through the Club Executive, so let's start at the top. One of the *President* Pierre's Castricum pet projects has been increasing the Club's visibility in the community through participation in community events and outreach programs.

Recently the executive has discussed the possibility of putting on more of the Club display in shopping centres. The need in all these cases is people willing to bring out their computers, and sit there for the day demonstrating programs, answering questions, etc... This is an excellent way for beginners to get involved, and it doesn't take much to wow the public. You also get to talk to the other club members, perhaps try out some of their software they brought with them. And the more people involved, the easier it is on each participant share the load.

TIPS: How To Get More Out of the OHCC

The Vice-President Dan Pigeon is also much busy with the Club's affairs. He tries to arranged the monthly demos and speaker in the MS-DOS SIG area. He also as DOS software made available in the 5 1/4 & 3 1/2 format by two librarians Hans Hagerats and Ray Monette, and Jean Fortier put together disks every month and Harald Freise the Disk of the month, while Terry Hicks puts the Windows 3.0 disks together.

Program co-ordinator Niels Hansen-Trip, is trying to do his best in having a guest speaker every second month, that tries to suit the membership. It's a hard job to do when you have a multi-machine club. So the more help Niels get the better the program work, he needs help with ideas who are willing to take the initiative and get things organized, but he also needs people who can do the "legwork" required, often sitting down with a long list of phone numbers looking for volunteers, or just tying together all the loose ends for a particular meeting.

The *Librarians* needs programs. If you can write a program, give it to the librarian. If you come across a good public domain program, give it to the librarian. But the librarians also needs help with other matters. One project the past-C64 librarian Carl Bigras was involve with, was going through the old disks of the month and compiling disks with the best programs. This could also be done with larger machines like Macintosh, Amiga and IBM.

I'm not sure what can be done with the BBS to help Pierre, who has already a very heavy workload has President. One of the tasks that might be useful involves testing and verifying programs uploaded to the BBS. In my opinion a new SYSOP might be the answer. We would need a person who would test every programs that would be uploaded to the board, to see if it works or to make sure its virus proof. He would make sure that each section of the BBS would have the adequate amount of programs to keep everyone happy.

And of course there's the *Newsletter*. I was pleased to receive a call a few weeks ago from Bonnie Fortier (Carter), volunteering to be the newsletter MS-DOS Editor. This was a great improvement to the newsletter staff, welcome aboard Bonnie. Thanks to the people who gives me articles for the newsletter, because without them there would be nothing to read. I will try to improve the newsletter as we go along but I still need articles for the various machines, so take out your skills and write me an article or review on a program or game or even a piece of equipment and pass it on to me for the newsletter.

It's Up to You

That's a short list on some of the jobs that need doing. There are several things the club SHOULD be doing, but isn't. Got an idea. Talk it over with a member of the executive. If you get a bad reaction, get a second opinion (the executive have their bad guys too). Get to know the executive, because they're mostly good and knowledgeable people, and if you need help with anything, the executive is your best bet - if they can't help, they'll direct you to someone who can.

It's your club. But you can't just sit back and expect good things to happen. You have to be active and aggressive, and you'll be rewarded, I can almost guarantee it. Also remember the more input you put in the club the more satisfaction you will get out of it.

C128 NEWS!

by Bob Thomas

Attention C-128'ers. Quite a few months have passed since we have seen any 128 news in the club newsletter. If you have been attending the monthly meetings, you haven't missed out on the latest news and developments.

During the August meeting we installed 64K video chips in a 'flat' 128. The process took about an hour to complete in full. The 64K chips give you a higher degree of resolution on your monitor and allow you to use Basic 8. Basic 8 is an upgraded version of Basic 7 which is installed in the 128. Many thanks to John Harvey's friend who performed the installation. He has indicated that he would be willing to do these installations for about \$40 for our 128'ers. In October we demonstrated several special purpose data base oriented programs which are on Club Disk # 11.

In November, Jan Frajkor will be demonstrating the CMD Hard Disk during the SIG portion of the meeting. Dan Courtney will also demonstrate the CMD RamDrive. I would also like to remind our volunteers to bring their equipment to the SIG:

Jan-the CMD Drive, monitor, cables, GEOS
George .. - the 1571 disk drive and cable
Dan- the CMD RamDrive and software
Bob- the 128 and mouse

Issue #29 of Twin Cities 128 arrived October 24th. It will now be issued monthly and in future will also have available a disk of the month. If a discount rate interests you, see me at the next meeting.

C64 - Having Fun With BBS And Friends

By Dan Faber

This is the 3rd in a series of articles regarding the C64

Electronic bulletin boards or BBSs are an exciting aspect of computers in the 90's and the C64 will be there. In order for C64 computer users to talk to Amiga, IBM, and other computers, all you need is a modem, a good terminal program, and of course - a telephone!

If you want to find a good BBS, ask a friend or if you're like us and want to do it yourself, call the Naubbs BBS at (613)733-4081, download the file 'naubbs.abi' for information about the Naubbs BBS or the file 'localbbs.hlp' and get over 300 telephone numbers for BBSs. There are many boards in the Ottawa area - some for specific computers, some for information, some for schools, and some just for fun.

Following is a review of a popular Ottawa region BBS that contains numerous activities readily available to C64 owners. There's MAGIC in the air "Technical Magic. This IBM BBS has made it big on the Ottawa scene with many modem users. Technical Magic is catching on all over Ottawa. So what's the catch you might ask?

There is none, except when you first log on. This is a BBS that stands out from among the others because of its variety of content and user-friendly environment. Once you've logged on ((613)596-9992), the first thing you notice is Teleconference. This BBS system is based on a multiple telephone log-on, and presently eight users can be on-line at once. The Teleconference link-up allows 8 members to talk at once (input and receiving from all is shown on every screen).

However, one user may choose to chat with another, allowing personal chatting without interruption from the other users in teleconference mode. Another subdirectory offered is SIGs (Special Interest Groups) which offers many different topics to chat about (and to upload and download files). Presently there are over 30 SIGs on the Technical Magic system, including such topics dealing with dreams, movies, music, Amiga and IBM. This BBS even offers some adult SIGs, but only by proof of age.

One SIG is dedicated strictly to the Commodore 64. Topics discussed on it are favourite games, music, and hardware and software for the C64. SIGs are controlled by an active volunteer member known familiarly as the SIGOP (Special Interest Group Operator). The main jobs of the SIGOP are to make sure that all files uploaded are Public Domain or Shareware and to keep things running smoothly within the SIG. New SIGs may be OK'd for any active member, with permission of the SYSOP. It allows keen members a chance to share their knowledge and interests.

Two other options in the Main Menu include Electronic Mail and Classified Ads. When using E-Mail a user may write messages, anonymously or not, to the SYSOP, to one of the SIGOPs, any one single user, any selected group of users, or to ALL users of the BBS. The Classified Ads option is along the same line as "Leaving Messages to All Users" but the advertiser is able to

explain in detail whatever he/she is selling, buying or renting, or wherever he/she is throwing a party. If one gets bored with teleconferencing, e-mail, or reading ads, one may choose to indulge in a game or two of Yahtzee, Othello, Quest for Magic, or Androids. The former two games are traditional games of skill; Quest for Magic is the 'almost' traditional text adventure game as compared to The Ultima Series released in the mid 80's. Androids, only accessible to ANSI users, offers fantastic graphic designs.

What sets Technical Magic apart from other BBSes in the Ottawa area is the user-friendly environment. Besides the user friendly menus, there are special commands that can be used anywhere and anytime on the system. These commands can, at any given moment, send messages to another logged-on user, look up the registry of someone, or send you directly into e-mail, saving the user valuable time for other matters.

The entire BBS system operates on a credit system - a user must acquire credits (3600 credits per 60 minutes) at a nominal fee per hour basis, plus GST. Weighing the pros and one con, the average user can't help but stay on-line with this BBS longer than necessary. With so many options, and many more than space here allows, packed into such a neat and tidy BBS, how can any C64 BBSer not refuse to get involved.

Comment: We would like to recommend to the membership of the OHCC that SIGOPs be established on our BBS. SIGOPs allow more members to be active in areas they are adept in and would keep things running more smoothly in the SIGs. You need only to read the e-mail on the OHCC BBS to realize that something is wrong.

Would you like to set up a special SIG on our BBS? Do you want our BBS to be more fun?

Make your views known to the SYSOP or to a member of the OHCC Executive.

Bug Watch ! Microsoft DOS 5.0

By Christine Whyte, PC World

If you're having problems using DOS 5.0 to swap applications, Microsoft may have the fix for you. The MSDOS 5.0 Task Swapper executable file "in both the MSDOS 5.0 upgrade products" contains a bug that will crash your system if a swapping session swaps or attempts to swap applications that are each using expanded memory.

Microsoft plans to remedy October with a version of Task Swapper executable file. You can get it by calling Microsoft Products Support Services.

MICROSOFT CORP. 800/426-9400

The DOS You've Been Waiting For (DOS 5.0)

by Paul Somerson — PC Computing

The 10 Best Things About DOS 5.0

1. More Memory. DOS 5.0 gives back lots of the conventional memory that the past few versions have gradually stolen from you.

2. Hot new commands. The first time you use the new DOSKEY command stacker and macro generator, you'll want to type, "Where have you been all my life?"

3. Goof protection. DOS 5.0 lets you unerase accidentally deleted files and unformat disks that have been accidentally formatted or have been trashed by the nasty DOS RECOVER command.

4. Online assistance. For the first time, DOS offers online syntax help, though the information you get is often cryptic and cries out for examples and explanations. The new DOS offers this help only on internal commands (like DIR and TYPE) and on most external utilities that end in .EXE or .COM. Try getting help for something like ANSISYS, and you're out of luck. And if you try to get help with the UNINSTAL.EXE file that the SETUP program creates, DOS 5.0 will start to uninstall everything.

5. Directory magic. DOS finally lets you sort directories, display selective classes of files, and use the new DIRCMD environment variable in order to specify which of the two dozen sort or display options you want as the default.

6. RX for version headaches. This new version should standardize DOS a bit, since users over the past few years have been working with three different major releases, not to mention other tweaks that have been released by OEMs.

7. Support for large hard disks. With DOS 5.0, you no longer need SHARE to access single hard disks larger than 32MB.

8. Full-screen editor. The new EDIT utility beats Edlin hands down and uses Word and WordStar commands, although it won't wrap lines, and it needs to have QBASIC handy to work.

9. Documentation and setup. The DOS 5.0 manual is a lot better than the one that came with previous versions, but it should be a whole lot better. Ditto with the setup routine.

10. Versatility. Although it won't run everything on every system, DOS 5.0 will do a lot of its basic stuff on every machine out there, from the original 4.77MHz PC to the newest, fastest top-of-the-line 486.

The 10 Worst Things About DOS 5.0

1. Trial-and-error configuration. DOS 5.0 still doesn't make it easy to set up your system. You have to create a trial CONFIG.SYS file with your configuration, run the MEM/C command and perhaps pipe the results through MORE, puzzle out what DOS did, then redo CONFIG.SYS to try another configuration, run MEM/C again, and so on. Quarterdeck's Manifest and Qualitas's Optimize are better for this purpose.

2. Batch-file clumsiness. DOS 5.0 doesn't enhance batch file processing one iota. And it still doesn't provide any device to sniff out ERRORLEVEL exit codes, which would make batch files interactive, or standardize the way all the DOS commands generate ERRORLEVEL codes.

3. Cryptic filenames. DOS still sticks users with eleven-character filenames.

4. Lack of security. Although it now lets ATTRIB hide and unhide files, DOS still doesn't offer much file security. It could and should offer password protection, encryption, or something at the disk, directory and file level.

5. Inflexible bootup. DOS doesn't make it easy for you to keep several different AUTOEXEC.BAT and CONFIG.SYS files on your disk and then to choose one at bootup or ignore them totally and boot up with a plain-vanilla system.

6. Nasty file management. Unless you're using the Shell, DOS will let you copy an older file over a newer one without warning, it won't let you move files without copying them and then deleting the originals, it won't allow context switching, it won't rename subdirectories, and it doesn't know what a mouse is.

7. Hide and seek. Although EDIT can huff and puff its way through your files, DOS still lacks a decent, fast file-browsing utility.

8. Space limitations. It still has too small a default environment (160 bytes), which has to be adjusted with a SHELL command, and it also still limits commands to (128 bytes).

9. Aesthetic problems. Unless you use cryptic ANSI escape sequences, DOS still works in black and white. And if you do use the thorny ANSI sequences, you have to use PROMPT to generate them.

10. Bad grammar. After 10 versions it still says "One file(s) copied."

If you want to read the complete article by the same name.

Get PC Computing, July 91.

The Twilight Zone

From The Vancouver PC User's Group
By Doug Russell — Pinellas IBM PCUG

The following is the new Company policy regarding computers. Please adhere to the following regulations:

No two employees will have the same brand/model computer.

No two computers will have the same size/capacity disk drive.

No two offices will have the same brand/model printer.

Hardware and software manuals must be filed away in some obscure place and forgotten.

Copies of the above-mentioned hardware and software manuals must be illegible in those sections that the employee will need most.

Copies of the above-mentioned hardware and software manuals must contain no indexes.

Filenames must have no relation whatsoever to what is contained in the file.

Always place the newest employee at the computer that contains the most important data so the data can be inadvertently and hopelessly destroyed.

Never send employees for computer training on the software they are required to use during their workday. It is too expensive for the company, and besides, the above-mentioned copies of the appropriate software manuals are available.

Employees are encouraged to use other employees' computers and reorganize the files as they prefer.

Bug Watch ! PC Tools 7.0

By Christine Whyte

Starting PC Tools 7.0 under DOS 5.0 users may find the system hangs and presents a blank screen. A Central Point Software representative says this is caused by the compression utility included in version 7.0; you can fix this with LOADFIX, a DOS 5.0 utility, or Lowfix, a shareware utility found on most BBS's.

To use LOADFIX, type "LOADFIX" a space and the PCTools 7.0 application you would like to open such as SI (System Information). You must use LOADFIX every time you open a PCTools application, whereas Lowfix bypasses PCTools compression utility algorithm, so users need run Lowfix only once on each PCTools application.

Although PCTools 7.0 is a text-based program Central Point Software has included a mouse pointer. If users have a super-VGA card or PS/2 model 70, the mouse pointer may jump on screen or leave a trail. To fix this, disable the mouse by typing/NGM in the command line or by running PC Config from PCTools 7.0's central menu and selecting the option to disable the mouse pointer.

Central Point Software expects to have ready a maintenance release containing other bug fixes for PCTools 7.0 by the time you read this; the company will send this release to all registered users.

CENTRAL POINT SOFTWARE
800/858-8199
503/690-8090



Technical support...? How does one unfix text from around objects?

Membership Report-Nov. 91

by Lucien St Denis

If your name appears on this list, please check with me, your membership chairman. A 1 month grace period will be allowed, then your name will automatically be removed from the membership list. Membership standing is 213, please renew now. Please bring a friend, we need new members.

DATE.... NAME	DATE.... NAME
91/10/01.. Evelyn M. Scullion	91/10/02.. George W. Attallah
91/10/03.. Jean-Louis Dion	91/10/05.. Ian McLeod
91/10/07.. Jaan Kolk	91/10/08.. Frederic Torrington
91/11/02.. Keith A. Seifert	91/11/03.. Real Chaine
91/11/04.. Earle Robertson	91/11/05.. Jack Trottier
91/11/06.. Ronald P. Webb	91/11/07.. Sanjeet Mehat
91/11/08.. Mervin F. Lemke	91/11/10.. Allan Kovacs
91/11/11.. M. H. Watson	91/11/12.. Gordon K. Wallford
91/11/13.. G. E. Lamontagne	91/11/15.. Don Fox
91/12/01.. Harry Wood	91/12/02.. Bill Paton
91/12/03.. Zem Colynuck	91/12/04.. Craig Ellis
91/12/05.. Christopher Morry	91/12/07.. Alvin S. Anderson
91/12/08.. Arthur Connor	91/12/09.. R.A. Patterson
91/12/10.. Jason Walton	91/12/11.. D. Bellmore
91/12/12.. F.H.(Ted) Turner	91/12/15.. Wade Albert
91/12/16.. Rob Andrews	91/12/17.. Jim Armstrong
91/12/18.. Kevin Bourgault	91/12/19.. R.D. Cessford
91/12/20.. Baljinder Chouhan	91/12/21.. B. Kipling Cooper
91/12/22.. Mark Cullum	91/12/23.. George Edwards
91/12/24.. Thomas Erskine	91/12/25.. Alexis Glass
91/12/26.. Robert S. Grant	91/12/27.. Jon Harju
91/12/28.. Gary Humenuk	91/12/29.. Scott W. Hurd
91/12/30.. Ross Jenkins	91/12/31.. Charles Lapierre
91/12/32.. Robert MacDougall	91/12/34.. Christopher Morgan
91/12/35.. Rick Morrow	91/12/36.. Jeremy Neuringer
91/12/37.. Eric Plantu	91/12/37.. Bud Reid

91/12/39..Don Routledge 91/12/40..Jerome D. Scott
91/12/41..Ed Steenhorst 91/12/42..James Sutton
91/12/43..Raymond W. Thomas

Welcome New Members (N=New-R=renewal)

10/10...Nora K. Nishikawa(N) 10/11... Bill Walker(N)
10/12...Joe Martyniuk(N) 11/01... Robert Jolicoeur(N)
11/02...George W. Brown(N) 11/03... Robert C. Wilson(N)
11/04...Gary Heiman(R) 11/05... Chris Sharp(N)
11/06...Margaret Spence(R) 11/07... Neville Newman(N)
11/08...Terry Hicks(R) 11/09... John Cocklin(R)
11/10...J. Adrien Gallant(N) 11/11... Larry Herbik(N)
12/01...Ed Fuchs(R) 12/02... Douglas W. Kirk(R)

HE FORGOT TO SAVE FOUR HOURS OF
PROGRAMMING BEFORE SWITCHING OFF
HIS COMPUTER!



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